

Economic and Employment Services
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Laura Howard, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

November 13, 2020

Administration for Children and Families

Office of Family Assistance

Mary E. Switzer Building
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

This is to submit the Fiscal Year 2020 TANF Caseload Reduction Report. Kansas elects to apply for a separate Two-Parent Family caseload reduction credit. This information is also being sent to the regional administrator. If you have general questions on this information, please feel free to contact me. If you have questions or comments regarding the methodology, please contact Lucas Osborn at 785-296-2968 (email lucas.osborn@ks.gov).

Sincerely,

Sandra Kimmons

Director of Economic and Employment Services

cc: Mrs. Karen Beckerman, Regional TANF Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families,
601 East 12th St., Room 349, Kansas City, MO 64106

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

Overall Report (check one)
 Two-parent Report

Apply the overall credit to the two-parent participation rate? yes no

PART 1 –Eligibility Changes Made Since FY 2005

(Complete this section for EACH change)

1. Name of eligibility change: Work Readiness Screening

2. Implementation date of eligibility change: October 2006 and July 2013

3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:

October 2006: A work readiness screen, mainly conducted prior to the approval of cash assistance, was established as a condition of eligibility. Applicants who failed to cooperate were denied assistance, while recipients who failed to complete the screen were assessed a work penalty.

July 2013: The work readiness screening requirement was discontinued to align with revised application requirements.

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: Cases closed and denied for failing to cooperate with the work screening requirement are recorded with a unique code in the Kansas Eligibility Enforcement System. The caseload impact applied the attrition rate for approved cases (refer to the attachment) since the majority of cases were denials.

Fiscal Year	Impact on Each Month in FY 2020								Date of Completion: 11/13/20				
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Prior Year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Oct-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nov		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dec			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Jan-20				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Feb					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mar						-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Apr							-	-	-	-	-	-	
May								-	-	-	-	-	
Jun									-	-	-	-	
Jul										-	-	-	
Aug											-	-	
Sep												-	
Total	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	-	-	-	-	-	
Average Monthly Cases									FY 20 monthly average				(0)

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 0

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

1. Name of eligibility change: Increase in Earned Income Disregard
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: May 2008
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Prior to the policy change, the first \$90 of earned income and 40 percent of the remaining income was disregarded when determining the family's benefit. The new policy increased the variable disregard to 60 percent.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: Cases with earnings were obtained from the Kansas Eligibility Enforcement System. The cases with income between the former and new disregard limits appear in the next table:

Month	Cases
Oct 2019	110
Nov	100
Dec	111
Jan 2020	115
Feb	115
Mar	131
Apr	107
May	106
Jun	104
Jul	114
Aug	125
Sep	115
Average	113

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 113

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

1. Name of eligibility change: Five-Month Transitional Payment
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: January 2009
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: A five-month \$50 transitional payment was provided to employed families whose earnings would have resulted in ineligibility for cash assistance. The policy permitted a new five-month payment cycle following the loss and resumption of employment.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
Cases with the \$50 transitional payment were obtained from the Kansas Eligibility Enforcement System:

Month	Cases
Oct 2019	300
Nov	331
Dec	351
Jan 2020	329
Feb	285
Mar	244
Apr	219
May	194
Jun	207
Jul	238
Aug	260
Sep	296
Average	271

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 271

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

1. Name of eligibility change: Inclusion of the Grandparents as Caregivers Program
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: July 2009
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: The separate, state-funded Grandparents as Caregivers Program was included in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance Program.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
Of the 151 Grandparents as Caregivers cases participating in the last month of the program's operation (June 2009), 93 participated in the TANF cash assistance program in the following month, July 2009. The 93 cases represented 2.33 percent of TANF Child-Only Cases. It is not possible to identify the cases that would have chosen the Grandparents as Caregivers Program had the program continued. Therefore, it is assumed that their proportion remains unchanged over time, at 2.33 percent of TANF Child-Only cases. Applying the 2.33 percent to FY 2020 child-only cases results in an estimated impact of 45 average monthly cases.

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: 40

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

1. Name of eligibility change: Application Requirements

2. Implementation date of eligibility change: November 2011, July 2013, January 2014

3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:

November 2011: Applicants were required to complete 20 job contacts per week before their eligibility determination and 20 job contacts per week before meeting with a case manager to develop a self-sufficiency plan.

July 2013: The revised application policy eliminated the pre-eligibility job search requirement. The new policy required clients to register in the State's public workforce system and complete a work skills assessment. Eligibility was conditioned on completing both the registration and assessment. In addition, because of the work assessment feature in the new policy, the October 2006 Work Readiness Screening policy was discontinued.

January 2014: Clients who failed to register in the workforce system were required to produce a valid excuse.

July 2016: The revised application policy eliminated the requirement for the clients to register in the state's public workforce system and complete a work skills assessment. The new policy required the completion of a self-assessment form and the completion of an online orientation for employment services.

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
 To measure the increase in denials due to the policy, a pre-policy baseline denial rate of 12.3 percent was established based on denials for the *failure to cooperate* and the *failure to complete applicant job search*. The estimated increase in denied cases attributed to the policies was determined by the multiplying the difference between the pre-policy and FY 2020 denial rate by total applications. The estimated increase in denials was cumulated using the attrition curve for new cases (refer to the attachment called Attrition Rate for TANF Cash Assistance Approvals Applicants). The average monthly case impact is summarized in the following table:

Impact on Each Month in FY 2020													Date of Completion: 11/6/2020
Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Prior Year	-273	-254	-236	-221	-206	-194	-184	-172	-163	-149	-148	-142	
Oct 2019	-43	-42	-39	-33	-30	-27	-24	-22	-20	-19	-18	-17	
Nov		-25	-24	-22	-19	-17	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	
Dec			-15	-15	-13	-11	-10	-9	-8	-8	-7	-7	
Jan 2020				-33	-33	-30	-26	-23	-21	-19	-17	-16	
Feb					-42	-41	-38	-33	-29	-26	-24	-21	
Mar						30	29	27	23	20	19	17	
Apr							-50	-49	-45	-39	-35	-31	
May								-108	-106	-97	-84	-74	
Jun									-128	-125	-115	-99	
Jul										-177	-172	-158	
Aug											-225	-219	
Sep												-68	
Total	-316	-321	-314	-324	-343	-291	-319	-404	-509	-650	-836	-846	-5473
									FY 20 monthly average			-456.1	

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -456

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

1. Name of eligibility change: Change in Treatment of VA Compensation for Work Therapy
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: January 2013
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Compensated work therapy benefits from the Veteran's Administration were treated as earned income rather than unearned income.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
Because the majority of earned income was disregarded in the benefit determination, the policy's effect was to increase the qualifying income allowed for cash assistance. The Mann Whitney U Test was used to assess the change in the proportion of cases with VA disability payments. The result indicated a small, but significant, change in the percentage of cases with VA disability payments.

Month	Cases w/ VA Disability Payments	TANF Cases	Denial Rate
Jul 2012	5	9,889	0.051%
Aug	6	9,881	0.061%
Sep	4	9,791	0.041%
Oct	5	9,756	0.051%
Nov	5	9,316	0.054%
Dec	5	9,120	0.055%
Jan 2013	<i>Policy Chg</i>		
Feb	6	8,590	0.070%
Mar	5	8,289	0.060%
Apr	11	8,263	0.133%
May	7	8,018	0.087%
Jun	7	7,790	0.090%
Jul	5	7,794	0.064%

	Mann Whitney U Test 95% confidence level	
	<i>Pre-Policy</i>	<i>Post-Policy</i>
<i>N</i>	6	6
<i>Mean Rank</i>	3.7	9.3
<i>z_U</i>	2.72	
<i>p</i>	0.007	

The difference between the pre-policy and FY 2020 percentage of cases with veteran's disability income was multiplied by the total cases in FY 2020 to obtain the caseload impact:

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

Fiscal Year	Month	Cases w/ VA Disability Payments	Total TANF Cases	Percent	Pre-Policy	Increase	Change in Cases
FY 2020	Oct	2	4,021	0.050%	0.052%	0.00%	(0.1)
	Nov	3	3,955	0.076%	0.052%	0.02%	0.9
	Dec	2	3,866	0.052%	0.052%	0.00%	(0.0)
	Jan	2	3,754	0.053%	0.052%	0.00%	0.0
	Feb	1	3,754	0.027%	0.052%	-0.03%	(1.0)
	Mar	1	3,724	0.027%	0.052%	-0.03%	(0.9)
	Apr	0	4,161	0.000%	0.052%	-0.05%	(2.2)
	May	0	4,453	0.000%	0.052%	-0.05%	(2.3)
	Jun	1	4,515	0.022%	0.052%	-0.03%	(1.3)
	Jul	1	4,365	0.023%	0.052%	-0.03%	(1.3)
	Aug	0	4,197	0.000%	0.052%	-0.05%	(2.2)
	Sep	1	3,918	0.026%	0.052%	-0.03%	(1.0)
Average Monthly Cases							(0.9)

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -0.9

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

1. Name of eligibility change: Suspicion-Based Drug Testing

2. Implementation date of eligibility change: July 2014, January 2019, and May 2019

3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy:

July 2014: TANF applicants, recipients and third-party payees who indicated an unlawful use of controlled substances or analogs were tested for drug use. The indicators of drug use included: arrest records from drug related charges within the last 12 months, employment records (loss of job, failing a drug test, etc., within the last 12 months), self-declaration, visual observation of drug use, observation of drug paraphernalia, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory screen indicators and a prior refusal to take a drug test.

The consequences for both positive drug tests and the refusal to take a drug test were limited to the individual's portion of the case benefit. The progressive consequences for a positive drug test follow:

- 1st positive test: Ineligibility for assistance until the completion of substance abuse treatment and job skills training
- 2nd positive test: 12-month ineligibility and completion of substance abuse treatment and job skills training
- 3rd positive test: Lifetime ineligibility

The consequences for refusing to submit to a drug test follow:

- 1st refusal: 6-month ineligibility and submit to a drug test
- 2nd refusal: 12-month ineligibility and submit to a drug test
- 3rd refusal: Lifetime ineligibility

January 2019: TANF benefits were not to be withheld because of a failure to name a protective payee for the Suspicion Based Drug Testing requirements. Applications were no longer to be denied for failure to provide a protective payee as the agency would assign one if one was not chosen.

May 2019: At first positive drug test, clients will be allowed to enroll in substance abuse treatment and skills training prior to a disqualification being implemented. Only if the individual fails to complete the substance abuse treatment and/or skills training will a disqualification occur. This continues to be counted as a first positive, even if the client does not serve a disqualification period.

***Note:** In Quarter 3 of 2020, no clients were tested as a result of statewide quarantine restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This was a temporary change in procedure and does not constitute a long term change in policy.

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: (attach supporting materials to this form) A special report was developed to track the policy. The cases that closed due to this policy were counted for one quarter. This period represents the average length of stay for new applicants during FY 2020
5. , minus the length of stay the sanctioned cases received assistance before a sanction is imposed.

Quarter	Oct-Dec '19	Jan-Mar '20	Apr-Jun '20	Jul-Sep '20
Oct-Dec '19	-9			
Jan-Mar '20		-6		
Apr-Jun '20			0	
Jul-Sep '20				-4
Total	-9	-6	0	-4
Average Monthly Cases				-4.8

6. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -5

Date of Completion November 13, 2020**State: Kansas****Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021**

Name of eligibility change: Time Limit Policies

- Implementation date of eligibility change: November 2011, July 2015, and July 2016
- Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: Successive reductions were imposed for the cash assistance time limit. In each case, transition provisions accompanied the new time limit:

November 2011: 48-Month Limit: Cases with more than 60 months of assistance at the time of the policy change were allowed a six-month extension. Cases with 36-59 months of assistance at the time of the policy change received an extension up to 12-months, not to exceed an overall 60 months of assistance. Hardship provision: 12 additional months.

July 2015: 36-Month Limit: Cases with more than 48 months of assistance at the time of the policy change were allowed an extension up to 60 months of assistance.

July 2016: 24-Month Limit: Cases with more than 30 months of assistance at the time of the policy change were allowed an extension up to 48 months.
- Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change: The pre-policy caseload baseline represents the average number of cases exceeding each time limit during the 12 months prior to each policy. The cases in each time limit cohort during the Caseload Reduction Report fiscal year were compared to the pre-policy caseload level to obtain the case impact.

Month	48-Month Time Limit			36-Month Time Limit			24-Month Time Limit			Total
	Pre-Policy	Cases	Case	Pre-Policy	Cases	Case	Pre-Policy	Cases	Case	
	Caseload	Over		Caseload	Over		Caseload	Over		
	Baseline	49 mos	Decrease	Baseline	36 mos	Decrease	Baseline	24 mos	Decrease	Decrease
Oct 2019	1,010	0	-1,010	418	1	-417	444	117	-327	-1,754
Nov	1,010	0	-1,010	418	1	-417	444	120	-324	-1,751
Dec	1,010	0	-1,010	418	2	-416	444	124	-320	-1,746
Jan 2020	1,010	0	-1,010	418	1	-417	444	130	-314	-1,741
Feb	1,010	0	-1,010	418	2	-416	444	138	-306	-1,732
Mar	1,010	0	-1,010	418	3	-415	444	130	-314	-1,739
Apr	1,010	0	-1,010	418	3	-415	444	130	-314	-1,739
May	1,010	0	-1,010	418	7	-411	444	146	-298	-1,719
Jun	1,010	0	-1,010	418	4	-414	444	148	-296	-1,720
Jul	1,010	0	-1,010	418	4	-414	444	165	-279	-1,703
Aug	1,010	0	-1,010	418	4	-414	444	168	-276	-1,700
Sep	1,010	0	-1,010	418	3	-415	444	165	-279	-1,704
Avg Mo Cases			-1,010			-415			-304	-1,729

- Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -1,729

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

1. Name of eligibility change: Minimum Benefit
2. Implementation date of eligibility change: August 2017
3. Description of policy, including the change from prior policy: TANF payments where the net benefit is less than \$10 will not be issued for any month, including initial month payments. Prior to this change, initial month net benefits could be less than \$10, but any month after the initial would be denied or closed.
4. Description of the methodology used to calculate the estimated impact of this eligibility change:
 To measure the increase in denials due to the policy, a pre-policy baseline rate of .19 percent was established based on the number of cases with a net benefit amount of less than \$10 in the initial program month and the number of applications in that month. The estimated increase in denied cases attributed to the policy was determined by multiplying the difference between the pre-policy and FY 2020 rate by total applications. The estimated increase in denials was cumulated using the attrition curve for new cases (refer to the attachment called Attrition Rate for Minimum Benefit). The average monthly case impact is summarized in the following table:

Time of Closure	Impact on Each Month in FY 2020												11/6/2020 Grand Total
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Prior Year	-22	-19	-16	-14	-12	-11	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	
Oct 2019	-3	-3	-3	-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Nov		-2	-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Dec			-3	-2	-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Jan 2020				-3	-3	-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Feb					-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Mar						-3	-3	-3	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2
Apr							-4	-4	-3	-3	-2	-2	-2
May								-3	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2
Jun									-3	-3	-3	-2	-2
Jul										-3	-3	-3	-3
Aug											-4	-4	-4
Sep												-4	-4
Total	-25	-24	-24	-23	-23	-23	-24	-24	-24	-24	-25	-25	-288
Average Monthly Cases												-24.0	

5. Estimated average monthly impact of this eligibility change on caseload in comparison year: -24.0

Date of Completion November 13, 2020

State: Kansas

Fiscal Year to which credit applies: 2021

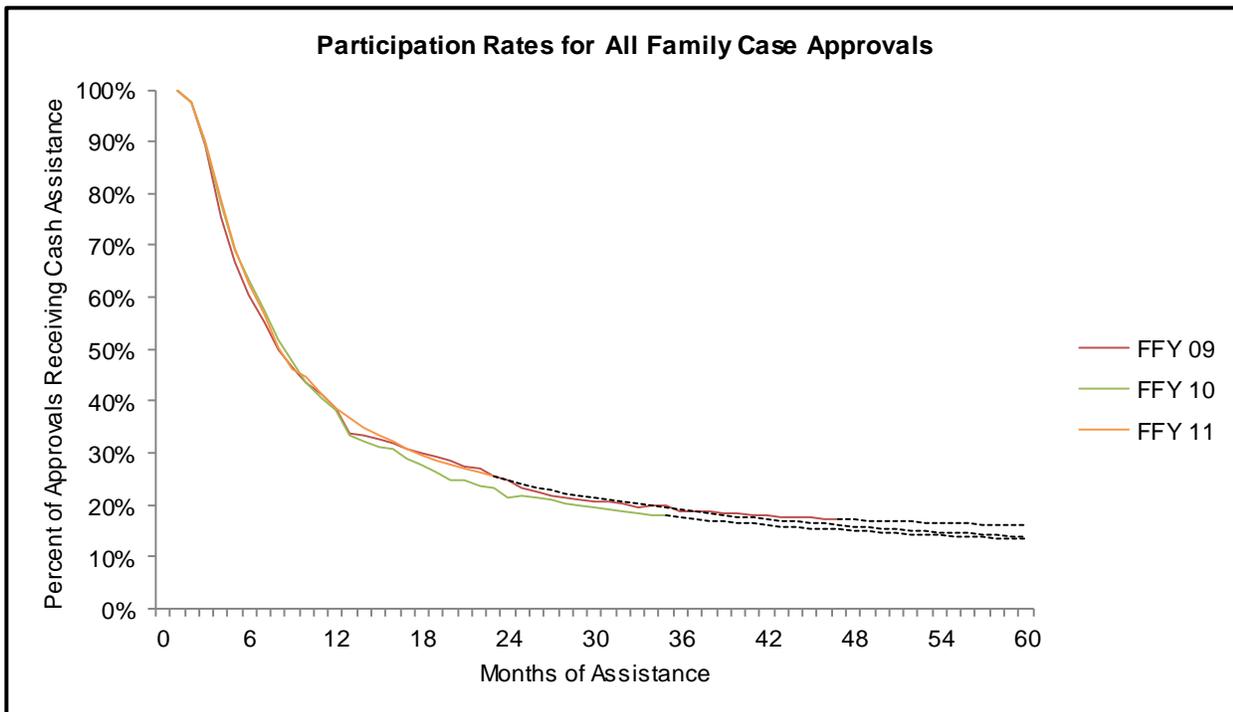
PART 2 – Estimate of Caseload Reduction Credit

<u>Impact of All Changes</u>		<u>Caseload Reduction Calculation</u>		
Work Readiness Screening	0	FY 2005 TANF Caseload	17,622	
Increase in Earned Income Disregard	113	FY 2005 SSP Caseload	<u>0</u>	
Five-Month Transitional Payment	271	Total FY 2005 Caseload	17,622	
Inclusion of the Grandparents as Caregivers Program	40	FY 2020 TANF Caseload	4,073	
Applicant Requirements	-456	FY 2020 SSP Caseload	<u>0</u>	
Change in Treatment of VA Compensated Work Therapy	-1	Total FY 2020 Caseload	4,073	
Suspicion-Based Drug Testing	-5	Excess MOE Cases in FY 2020	<u>468</u>	
Time Limit Policies	-1,729	Adjusted FY 2020 Caseload	3,605	
Minimum Benefit	-24	Caseload Decline	13,081	77.3%
Net Impact	-1,791	Decline – Net Impact	11,290	
				Caseload Reduction Credit = 64.1%

Attachment: Attrition Rate for TANF Cash Assistance Approvals Applicants

The caseload impact of an applicant denied assistance extends beyond the month of denial and includes subsequent months for which the case would have otherwise received assistance. Therefore, for policies centering on applications, the participation in cash assistance must be determined.

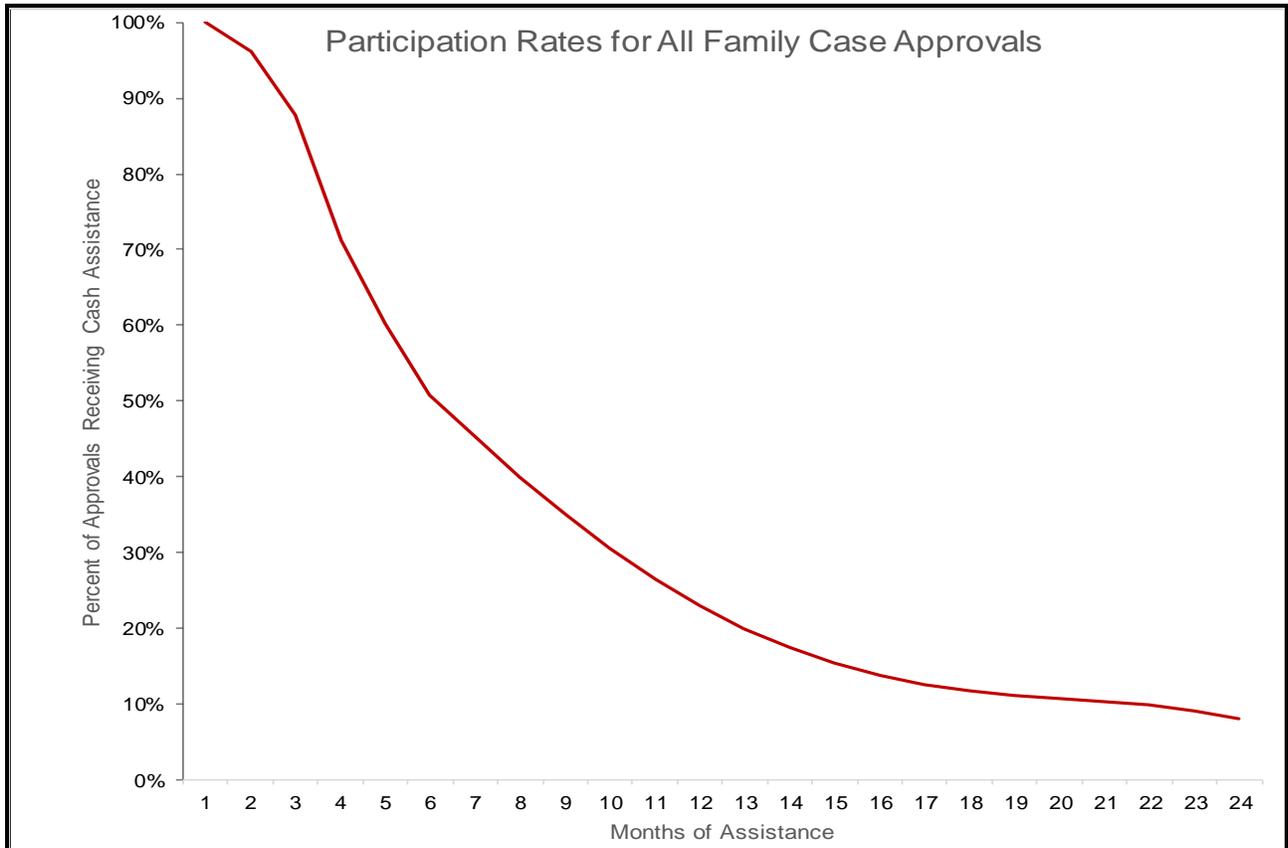
Approved cases were selected from a month in each quarter during FY 2009 – FY 2011. The cases were followed to obtain the percentage of the initial cases receiving assistance in the ensuing months. A September 2011 endpoint was chosen to isolate the pre-policy participation characteristics from the effects of the application policies beginning in November 2011. The participation rates were completed by curve-fitting (denoted by the dashed lines in the graph) to obtain 48-month and 60-month participation rates. The following graph shows the resulting participation rates by fiscal year for All Family cases:



A similar review was performed for One- and Two-Parent Family cases (i.e. those generally mandatory for work participation). The resulting average length of stay on assistance was almost identical to that for All Family cases. The average of the All Family case attrition curves for FY 2009 – FY 2011 was applied to the Work Readiness Screening and Application Requirements policies.

Attachment: Attrition Rate for Minimum Benefit

Approved cases were selected from July 2012, January 2013 and July 2013. The cases were followed to obtain the percentage of the initial cases receiving assistance in the ensuing months through 24 months. The following graph shows the resulting participation rates by fiscal year for All Family cases:



This attrition curve was applied to the Minimum Benefit Policy.